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LIVING HISTORY

TRANSCRIPTION OF AN INTERVIEW WITH ELIZABETH KEIL CLARKE AND GERTRUDE KEIL, APRIL 4, 1979.

Interviewer: This is an interview with Elizabeth Keil Clarke, the daughter of Joseph Keil, who was sent by Stark Brothers to Luther Burbank's farm in...1930?

Gertrude: No, he didn't come out till 1931. 31 he come out.

Int: And that last voice was Joseph Keil's widow, Gertrude Keil. She will be answering some of our questions too, I hope. I want to go back over what you just said about coming to California on behalf of Stark Brothers, and it was to be your curiosity about what California was like and you only intended to stay for a few months? Did I get that straight?

Elizabeth: Yes. We came out...Pop came out because he was sent here to see what was here; what Stark Brothers could use. To go through all of the lists of the plants and the trees and everything and make a record of what was here and then stay long enough to see what kind of fruit there was that could be adapted or could be used for Stark Brothers, and he would send a number of seeds of trees and send all that back so they could try them out and see whether they would grow in a different climate and he was to be here until Fall. So we came out in the summer and Mom and I did the driving....

John Hughes: Oh, you drove across?

Elizabeth: Yes. It was fun.

JH: What kind of car?

E: A Pontiac.

JH: Route 66?

E: We came across Louisiana to Kansas City to Colorado Springs and everybody kept telling us "Well now you really ought to go this way","Now don't go that way", "Not this way." And we eventually would up in Salt Lake City.

G: We followed this regular trail. What was the name of it?

E: We followed a number of trails.

G: We followed one trail the whole way through.

E: No. Because we kept being told to go here and go there and the radiator kept boiling over.

Int: So you were saying you and your mother did the driving? Was Joseph with you?

E: No. He was already there.

Gertrude: He never went back.

Int: He was already there.

Elizabeth: No. He came out in January. He came out the first part of January.

Int: Did he drive?

E: No.

Int: He took the train?

(No audible answer)

E: We were just going to stay for the summer. We'd all go back together.

Int: Including your father?

E: Yes.

Int: And then what?

E: Well then Stark Brothers sold the seed department out from under us and he was allowed to stay here and continue as caretaker and we were allowed while we were here and on vacation we could stay on in the cottage there and we were allowed just to live there. There was no water. We had to carry it.

JH: From where?

E: From down the street a ways, one of the neighbors. On the running board.

G: Back then we had running boards on the cars. And this pack held 20 gallons. And we put in on the running board to take it home.

JH: Well, did Stark Brothers still have the lease on the land?

G: Yes.

JH: So your father was caretaker, but nothing was being done as far as seeds?

E: No. Well he still continued keeping records and I assume sending things back because this would have been the fruits and the nuts rather than the seeds. There were a whole lot of records there, what was in which row and various accounts of it.

Int: So the seed nursery that was sold out from under him you're referring to was in Missouri and they expected him to go back to it when he was finished in Sebastopol, and then it wasn't there anymore so he stayed in Sebastopol?

E: You'd have had a fine time getting me to live back there again.

Int: Oh, you liked it after you got here in Sebastopol?

E: Well, we went back the next year.

G: The family went, but he didn't go.

JH: You just wanted to clear up matters at the house...sell the house. You didn't drive back?

G & E: Yes we did! And back again!

JH: In the same car?

G: I'm not sure about that. I think so.

Int: OK. Then you stayed there until 1936 and then what happened?

G: We moved to Main Street and lived there until 1940 and then in 40 we went...what did we do in 40?

E: Florence Avenue.

G: That's right.

JH: The Borba House?

G: Ya. Bought the place.

Int: I want to ask you some questions about that in a minute. But first, why did you have to leave the Burbank house?

G: We didn't have to. Our choice.

Int: I see.

G: I got tired of living there and carrying water and so forth and being so careful with the water, you know, and I wanted a little more convenience. So we moved for that reason.

E: Well, Pop was working in Santa Rosa. He was in charge of the Burbank Gardens in Santa Rosa.

JH: Was he connected with the Junior College also?

G: Yes. He was, yes. That's how he got there. The Junior College hired him.

E: He also had a class. He built a green house and he had classes.

JH: Oh, is that the picture we have of him by a hot house and the cactus? Now, was that at the Burbank Gardens or was that at the JC?

E: That would be Santa Rosa. That was at the Burbank Gardens in Santa Rosa.

Int: When he went to work in Santa Rosa, what were the circumstances

around him no longer being caretaker in Sebastopol?

G: He still was. We still lived there.

Int: But being the caretaker on the Burbank Farm and....

G: It didn't involve anything more than us living there. He just did what he wanted to do. He didn't have to do anything, but we could live there.

Int: There was a point when Stark Brothers had all they wanted and needed and then there was no more work to be done?

G: Well, he kept sending different fruits when they were ripe so they could see how they tasted, and some they kept and some they didn't want. And little seeds and so forth.

JH: And then even when you lived on Main Street in Sebastopol he was still essentially the caretaker?

G: Yes, and he want back and forth.

JH: Where did you live? Was it on South Main or North Main?

G: North Main, right across from the Safeway Store.

JH: The new Safeway? By the church where the road bends?

E: Across the street from where the old Safeway was.

G: It was up on a hill on the right side and right across the street was the Safeway store. I don't know if it's still there or not.

E: The Purity Store was down....

JH: OK, OK, they lived up on, what do you call that lane? Barry Lane!

G: That's it, that's it!

JH: As you go up Barry Lane, was it the big house on the left, the big white house?

G: It has a porch on the front and the side and they finally took that off after we moved.

JH: That's supposedly one of the oldest houses in Sebastopol.

G: Is it?

JH: There's a nice well up there, and water that supplied the town way back. 1870?

E: Supplied whole town with water from the well..

JH: Yes. At one time. That's where your uncle stayed the first night he ever came to Sebastopol.

E: Uncle Manuel.

JH: Yes. And its supposed to be the oldest because there was a picture of that large red Victorian house that belonged to Dr. Keating at one time and the Victorian just over to the left of Barry Lane and this other big house was just above it. And there was a post card that said "The Newest and the Oldest House in Sebastopol". In 1907.

G: It was to the right of the house, not the left. The left was a driveway. And then there was a hill, and some kind of little store down there and then the front room was something different. I don't know exactly what was there.

JH: Ya, it was a Purity and now its Ranch Mart. But Purity was there before.

G: No, what I'm talking about wasn't the Purity. It was right down...here was our yard, and right down here at the foot of the yard was this little building and I can't think, maybe a shoe repair shop or something like that, down there. A little place. Then the driveway was right down there.

E: It was before Purity, then?

G: No, Purity was across the street.

JH: And the train tracks used to come in there and go to the.... Spease.

G: The tracks are still there.

JH: Well they've blocked them up and now they got buildings in there.

G: The last thing I had read they were going to keep the trains running I thought.

JH: Well, it runs on Main Street, but it doesn't have that spur anymore.

G: Oh.

JH: They used to make brandy in there and then they canned apples, I guess.

G: Oh yes, they had a cannery.

Int: In our records I think we have that in 1936 Stark Brothers terminated their connection with the Burbank Farm, and that Mrs. Burbank then developed the entire acreage except 3 acres, and an apple range, Is that correct? In 1936?

G: Down at the driveway, you come in a gate, here's the driveway and she had the left side for her apple trees, and then the right

side for the Stark Brothers. Stark took care of that. They didn't own it but they checked on it, on the trees. But mostly Golden Delicious down there.

JH: Did you know George Ramando?

G: No.

JH: He started taking care of her apple orchards in 1937. At that site and then on Bloomfield. No, I'm sorry, from 1942 to 1960. You probably didn't cross paths.

Int: This isn't about Burbank, or maybe it will be: the Borba House of course interests me because my grandmother's sister married Emanual Borba and his father, Manuel Borba had built the Borba House that you bought in 1940. Some of the plants, the trees and shrubs that now remain on that property are probably connected to your husband and to Luther Burbank. Do you remember if either one of them planted any of Burbank's developments on the property?

G: Not particularly.. I know we planted to the left side there. We planted a row of trees along the fence but I don't know whether they were Burbank's trees or just....must of been, though. I think he would have planted...would have been from Burbank, likely.

JH: That place just sold.
Int: Again?

JH: Lois Allen sold it.

G: Oh, that't right. She said she lived there a while last year.

E: Is this the young Korean family?

JH: I don't think so.

G: She sold it to Koreans, she said.

Int: I think the wife may be Korean.

JH: I see very few people around there. I see signs of people doing things from one week or month to another, but I don't see many bodies.

E: Well, I saw Lois ~~land~~ last fall, and she said she had sold it and we have driven past it, but there was somebody there. But she said it was only the man who was here. He was going to bring his family but he had to get the house ready so he could bring his family from Korea. And he was having trouble getting the wife here for some reason.

Int: You lived there until not too long ago. About 14 years?

E: About 10 years.

Int: 10 years ago?

G: Yes. Well, I was living there until I came here and I came here in 70? 1969.

E: Its been 10 years this fall.

Int: And Lois Allen bought it from you?

G: Yes. She lived there not very long and then she sold it.

Int: I think she rented it for a while.

G: Yes, she did for a while.

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Int: Can you think of any other questions?

JH: Did Mrs. Burbank get over to the farm much?

G: No. She came over a time or two, but she'd lost interest in it. She came to visit, but she was never in the house. Was it just last year that she died?

Int: Yes.

G: The tire on the tree, that's the way he marked his trees. He knew what he wanted but nobody else knew about it. (She is looking at old photographs)

Int: He marked the trees with a piece of cloth and was there a label on there?

G: No, he remembered himself. I don't know. It was summertime, I reckon, because my husband knew about some of those things there, so there must be some kind of record, but he didn't always make it clear. He knew about what he was doing. Either he didn't want or he didn't think it was important for somebody else to know about it.

Int: We have information that he did thousands and thousands and thousands of breedings and crosses to come up with maybe one thing that would be worth while. I suppose if he had spent a lot of time record keeping, maybe he felt he couldn't spend time doing the actual work and getting the final product.

G: Maybe he wasn't interested in that part anyhow.

Int: What have you got here? Is this something that Joseph did? It says "Copy - Master Record, Burbank Experimental Farm, Sebastopol, California, Fruit, Ornamental and Misc. Plantings, Original by J.B. Keil, Copy by Elizabeth M. Keil, 1931.

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Int: This is a row by row account of what Joseph Keil found growing there on the farm.....This must have taken a lot of time. I cound spend hours looking at this.....he describes a flavor.....cloth line....that must refer to these bits of rag that he tied on things. And he sent this record to Stark Brothers?

E: Yes, it would have been a copy. Probably originals of all kinds of things that we may have copies of....And he carried on some of the same type of work.....

Int: One researcher has written that Joseph Keil said that the depression made it impossible for him to continue the breeding experiments. I guess Stark Brothers cut back. I'm looking at a great record. It's a spineless cactus record. And then Joseph Keil wrote all these comments, and then section by section described what was on each part of the farm. So somewhere there are handwritten copies of that. And did you type this off a handwritten copy?

E: Yes.

Int: Oh my goodness! And you did this in 1931?

E: Yes.

Int: Did Stark Brothers give them back to you or he kept copies of what he sent to Stark Brothers and then you typed it up? And does Stark Brothers have a copy of your typewritten? You sent that to them?

E: I should have.

Int: Boy, this is extensive.

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Int: Burbank? Roses that are pretty but maybe don't have much fragrance he was trying to breed more fragrance into the rose. That's the blueberries. Then there's something here about all the roses and different things....orchard trees and lily plants ....and here's where he is getting into roses and there are so many.

JH: Lois Allen gave us a little book, it was like a little ledger book. It may have been at the Borba House. It was a long little narrow book and of little writings just on one page. Just Os and 1s and odds and ends and he had a multiplication of a hundred times a hundred times a hundred.

G: Was it in his writing?

JH: I believe it was. That's what she told us it was. It was in a little book about this long and this wide. It had a brown cover on it, and you open it up and it had little strips of paper perforated on one end.

E:
Now this, if you can stand the smell, in a manila folder....

Int: Cherry - Burbank notes. Now, does that mean that these were transcribed from the Burbank notes?

E: It seems to be. Pop did some of the typing himself. I typed an awful lot but I can't say for sure. But there're some things in there that definitely look like they were Burbank.

Int: Here's a question and answer that look like they were from interviews, and that Burbank was doing the answering: "How much experimenting have you done with the citrus branch of fruits" is the question. "Oh about $4,000 worth and I have nothing to show for it but the experience," Burbank writes.

> "Course the climate got away with me every time. We are not in the right climate for them. I worked hard to get a hardy orange before the government started in on it. They got wind of what I was doing, so they started a hardy orange manufactory themselves. But it has not proved to be very profitable or valuable. In fact, one of the newspapers said they started out to make a hardy sweet orange and they were handed out a lemon instead. A bigger one, too. Nobody can do it. They crossed two of the best oranges and got a bitter lemon. Of course you would naturally expect it to run back that way."

I guess you have to be a horticulturist to know that. I wouldn't know that. So these are interviews, I guess, with Burbank. The City of Sebastopol has some sheets that look like this with questions and answers or people who had done interviews.

E: I don't know where they keep them.

Int: You don't know where these came from?

E: No.

Int: You didn't do any work on these in the way of typing?

E: I can't remember that. That's too long age. I don't remember whether I typed that or not.

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Int: Burbank notes on Life and Philosophy.....

G: That would be interesting.

Int: They're talking about plants here, then they go on..... and graphs...between the heavy rain....he talks about heredity of plants....on Religion and Ministers...on letters and scientists ....on the Bible.....

JH: These little things are interesting. It took the place of paperclips?

E: That's the old style...those are antiques.

Int: "Burbank Notes on Sebastopol Orchard". This is 1913!

JH: Can we get copies of these?

E: You may have them.

JH: Really?

E: I didn't want to...I was gonna make some copies of things this morning but I didn't want to run all those off.

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Int: Oh for heaven's sake! "The boy ate a whole berry," Burbank says, "that was so valuable that we had to take him to the hospital and have a surgical operation in order to trace the seed. And that is what we surely will do in case we eat any of these valuable berries." No wonder he wanted to chase the little boys....

JH: We interviewed one fellow and he used to live on Pleasant Hill. Later he and his brother owned a pharmacy in Santa Rosa, but he said that youngsters would cut across and Burbank would throw a little rock at them and yell at them and tell them to get out of there. And they said that they would see him and he always had a hat on and he'd be down crouched like a cat right over his plants down on his hands and knees, and he'd be looking like that. And this fellow that we interviewed yesterday said that he never saw him without a suit on. In his yard and gardening he always had trousers, and coat and shirt and tie. We have pictures of people up on ladders, remember that picture with three or four men and they all have hats.

E: This is probably the same as the front of the ledger there. This folder is labeled "Reserved Copy."

Int: This would be your father's copy?

JH: Oh thats handwritten..and this is typed.

Int: This is your father's hand. What tedious work. I just can't get over it. And still Joseph had time to do some plant breeding himself even though he was doing all this recording?

G: Umm huh. He would have liked to do plant breeding all alone if he could have afforded to take care of himself.

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Int: American Rose Society, Official Record, copies made by Luther Burbank, December 26, 1911. And then this is just information he wrote about roses. "The rose has been cultivated perhaps longer than any other flower. It is very difficult to classify roses into sections and species..." and so on. Here's a picture. Did your husband take photographs of many or all or everything?

G: No, I wouldn't say all, no, it would have been too much. But many things he did.

Int: And he sent the photographs to Stark Brothers? And so these are a couple of photographs that he took?

G: Well, I'm not sure whether he took these or not.

Int: 1931? So then your father must have run across this?

E: Because he could go through everything that was there at the farm. So he could pick out the records and things that he could use and I don't know where the originals are...I would assume that Starks got the originals.

Int: Look at this writing.

G: Then Mr. Burbank died 1927?

JH: 26

E: The 27 was when Starks died.

Int: This is Luther Burbank's writing. Because your father's writing was readable. And what we have seen of Luther Burbank's writing was not readable. This is very clear. Could you make head or tail of that? He probably just wrote it for himself...

E: Sure.

Int: Its amazing. Its like another language.

E: Try a little magnifier with it and see whether that helps any.

Int: These are good photographs. He must have had a good camera? Because even these other old ones that I have here.... good photographs.

E: He was a specialist photographer. Photographer for a horticulturist.

Int: Oh, that aspect of horticulture was his speciality, then photography?

G: Yes. He had the Stark's camera.

E: Before that he would take pictures when he was in the experiment station. He's always taken photographs.

G: Ya, but it wasn't his own camera, that's what I was trying to say.

E: In Ohio? Who's was that?

G: It wasn't his then either. It was.....

E: Belongs to the Experiment Station?

G: Yes.

E: I know he's always taken pictures.

G: It was a big camera.

E: The kind that you had to have a black cloth.

G: Yes.

E: Does that help any?

JH: It does a little bit.

Int: Elizabeth, did you put the handwritten notes...I noticed that some said "dying," and then said "removed." Would that be your father?

E: It doesn't look like his either.

G: His writing changed. He used to write very small, then he wrote quite large as he got older.

E: That doesn't look like it.

Int: How old a girl were you when you were typing all this?

E: Well, I was about 20, 21.

Int: You weren't really a girl anymore.

E: I had my 21st birthday out here.

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Int: These books are out of print.

JH: But this was an ad for the book.

G: Have you got one of those big books "Harvest of the Year"?

Int: We don't have any of these. In fact, even the library in Santa Rosa has this book and I've used it for my research, but some of these....

JH: Wilber Falls lived in Santa Rosa in the building behind the hothouse, I guess. There was an upstairs or something?

G: Upstairs of the barn.

JH: Right. And he's written a number of other books on different areas and different people and Rayford Liggin bought a farm from him in Sonoma Valley. And he had an aol book and it had to do with the history of the Imperial Valley or something like that and he was to co-author. LEGGETT

Int: Is this his wife, Elizabeth?

G: He was married twice you know.

JH: You hardly hear anything about his first wife. Apparently, you hear stories you know, she was a little crazy.

E: I don't know whether thats her. I know what she looked like when she was older.

G: That's Mrs. Burbank.

E: Is it?

G: Yes.

Int: This is a catelog that was put out by the....Santa Rosa Experimental Farm, Santa Rosa. It was put out as a catelog for people to order plant material from there. Did Joseph have anything to do with this?

E: I think its longer ago than that....

Int: Well this is 1925.

E: Thats prior to his death; this is after.

JH: What's the date?

Int: There's no date on this, that I can see yet.

JH: There must be somewhere. This would be after his death, then. That's the first kind of color tinted photo I've ever seen.

Int: And someone else then carried on with the retail nursery in Santa Rosa and was that past Stark Brothers..?

E: Must have been.

Int: Or was that another?

E: Not that I know of.

JH: There used to be a little like..not a gazebo..but a stand where they would sell seeds right on the corner....over there where the houses in Santa Rosa and that went back to Deerborn. Henry Ford took that back there.

E: My pop used to sell seeds from the Burbank garden there in Santa Rosa because he had the gardens all laid out and he harvested seeds and he sold them. That was his own little private business. The Junior College didn't care.

JH: While you were on the farm there in Sebastopol, did periodically somebody come by that knew that these experiments were going on in the past and was maybe from another country or out of state, and just would wander in occasionally?

G: Well, the rest of the garden in Santa Rosa, quite often somebody....

E: The Santa Rosa garden had lots of visitors.

JH: Right, but in Sebastopol did anybody come over there?

E: Not too much. They would go to Santa Rosa and earlier than that there undoubtedly were people through there. But I don't think we had very many that would come through. If they came to Santa Rosa and were genuinely interested, then they might get over. Other than that, it would have been somebody from Starks that would have been coming in.

JH: I figured they would have to be pretty serious horticulturists to get over there.

E: Because the farm was not a showplace.

JH: Right.

Int: It was not a place to shop for plants. Thats where they did in Santa Rosa. According to John Breger, this royal walnut was one of his more significant experiments in Sebastopol...

E: Well, in Santa Rosa there were a couple of big walnuttrees up on the farm.

Int: That still remain - the royal walnut and there are some lilacs that remain on the farm and ~~Bragger~~ BREGER said there are the two most important...

E: Where is Breger now?

Int: He's retired from a University on the East Coast and when we interviewed him it was about a year and a half ago and he was visiting the Halbergs in Sebastopol and this is something that he does about once a year and he stays with them. I don't know where he lives, I think he still lives back east somewhere..

JH: This is the house on Tupper, apparently, that was torn down.

G: Talking about recently, you mean?

JH. No, this is the house he lived in before the..was it before the earthquake? I don't have all my dates right. He lived in this house and then there was the earthquake and then he built the house there in....or added on to it or something..

G: Well, he lived on Tupper Street while I knew him.

JH: Right.

G: Right across the street he had another house, at the end, a brick house.

E & G: He had a kindergarden place for kids...a business school at one time.

JH: Ya, but I don't think...it says here the Burbank Home in Summer. That house isn't the one that's there now I don't believe.

G: This one here? Yes it is.

JH: Is that the one that's there now?

E: That's the pink one, isn't it?

Int: It was pink. That's not the big white one.

JH: Ya, no, that's not the big white one, and the pink one was torn down when it had to do something with the Civic Center.

G: Oh.

JH: A lot of people think it was a much nicer house than the one that's there now.

E: Well when we went over there Burbank was in the white house there at the guard house, not the pink house, he was in the white house.

G: She lived there until she died, I guess, unless she was in the hospital a while too.

JH: Well, I think this is here, but it doesn't add up. Well, this is...and this, but isn't there still the barn in back of the greenhouse?

Int: I don't recognize it because it doesn't have....I don't know ...

E: I don't know. I haven't seen it for a long time.

Int: What year was this? It was put out by Santa Rosa Junior College.

E: It must have been the mid 30's then.

Int: Or earlier...

E: Well that picture, yes, but the junior college didn't have this until the mid 30's.

Int: OK, I see. The catelogs are wonderful.

G: Richard has a book that reads very interesting...a small book on Burbank.

Int: Oh, on the life of Burbank?

G: Um huh.

Int: Is this a catelog? Oh, its a little book, University of California.

JH: Do you think he still lives in Ignacio?

E: Vanderbuilt? I doubt it.

G: He probably isn't even living anymore.

E: But he did have a nursery down there.

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Int: Here's a picture we don't have of you, of one corner of Sebastopol grounds. There's the barn; the house looks different, doesn't it? Course it doesn't have all the shrubbery. "View of One Corner of Sebastopol Grounds." Now this is not in Sebastopol. Look how dressed up they are! Doing that kind of work.

JH: When he worked in Sebastopol would he lay out row upon row upon row and then when that experiment was over, flowers, just take those out and put in plums, just keep it going?

(No answer - END SIDE ONE)

Int: Was this written by Luther Burbank?

E: Yes, I think so. The other piece was a sermon.

Int: Luther Burbank's address. First Congregational Church in San Francisco.

JH: Was that the one where he got into all the hot water?

E: That was after.

Int: This doesn't look like the one where he got in hot water. The one where he got in hot water was so beautiful. I had it reproduced and mailed it to relatives.

E: Oh, this could be, because he was interviewed and he said he was an infidel and of course this went splash across all the papers.

Int: This was the one:

"The religion of most people is what they would like to believe, not what they do believe. And very few stop to examine the foundation. The idea that a good God would send people to a burning hell is utterably damnable to me. The ravages of insanity, superstitution _____. I don't want to have anything to do with such a God."

And that got him into trouble. "I am a lover of man and of Christ as a man and his work and all the things that help humanity, but nevertheless, just as he was an infidel then, I am an infidel today."

E: And then the other two pages there, he gave the equivalent of a sermon in the First Congregational Church of San Francisco.

Int: This one I don't have a copy of anywhere. This one was printed in the Press Democrat recently, about two or three years ago. And of course, many people come to think that way now.

E: This is probably something you don't have.

Int: Oh for heaven's sake! This is all in German? Czechoslovakian? Post mark 28. Here is one from 28 on this letter. Here is a letter to Mrs. Burbank from someone in Czechoslovakia, Prague.

JH: Prague is the capital of Czechoslovakia.

Int: And this is an article in a magazine there. "The ballet is nice, too. The costumes are fantastic. The scenery..." That's on the other side. These are some of the same photographs we have seen many times over. And some translations here by someone where they translated cactuses without pricks instead of..what do we call spineless cactus?

JH: Spineless.

Int: They call it prickless cactus.

JH: One of the people brought out, we were talking to about the spineless cactus was that he spent longer on that than any other experiment and more of his own money and he didn't ever really get the results he thought....for cattle feed, and the rabbits and some other things got to them before that they could even get enough for cattle and it was barren country and it never quite worked out.

Int: Well Steve, our script writer for our slide program, said that he did spend a lot of money and a lot of time on them and he did develop a thornless cactus but two or three generations later they reverted to having spines again. So that after all that work it just wouldn't hold. I don't know about the rabbits.

JH: Well he says something about that, or someone did.

E: There still is a spineless cactus.

JH: That's over there in the garden?

E: No, it grows in some spots. It may not be completely smooth, but I'm sure that there still is....

XXXXXXX

E: This is the picture of Mr. Novak, dyed. It was given to him by Mr. Burbank.

Int: Is that Novak in this picture?

E: No. On the back it tells who those people are.

JH: It looks like its at the Junior College maybe. Is it?

Int: No, its the Burbank house, the central house with the ivy

on it. OK, there's Harvey Thompson, Herbert Levison, George Fuering and Lawrence Preger.

G: Gregor or Preger?

Int: Preger. And Harvey Thompson was the only one from Santa Rosa. And I've heard that name.

JH: What's this "_____of San Francisco?"

Int: Ya, something of San Francisco. Supervisor, maybe? Assistant Marshall? Something parade of San Francisco.

G: Rose Parade?

Int: No. I wonder if they were military?

JH: They look like, almost like little boys.

E: Well you know, I had wondered about that picture, whether they were....whether this picture was made up. Now of course these two were alright, because shaking hands with him, but these look so small. Of course they could be boys.

Int: And he's wearing knickers.

JH: What's it say over here?

Int: They are both wearing knickers, so they must be young boys.

G: Boys were wearing knickers when Richard was a boy. Richard was born in 1918 and they were wearing knickers when Richard was a boy.

Int: Ya, these boys are wearing knickers.

JH: You can probably pinpoint down the year a little bit.

Int: Well, we might be able to find this man.

XXXXXXX

Int: What's the background on this lady? Is she the lady that was such a close friend?

E: That's Georgina. Is Georgina a niece?

G: No, I don't think she's any.....now wait. I was going to say I don't think she's any real relative, but I'm not sure. She lived with Mrs. Burbank for a while. I know that.

Int: Georgina did, you mean?

G: Yes. I think she must have been a niece.....She was there when we came there, Georgina.....
Mrs. Burbank had that hat for a good many years. She wore it

everywhere. Last time I saw her, she was wearing it down in Sebastopol.

Int: Oh, they're wearing namecards, like they were at a convention or something.

G: Well, maybe they are.

E: Well, this is something that they were watching.

JH: Oh, this is the woman I think is one of the exectors of her estate. She's like a niece or....

E: I know there was a niece that either lived with Burbank or with her off and on.

G: That was a nice barn. I wonder whether it's still standing?

E: No, it burned down in...(Not audible)

G: There was an apartment up there in the barn, wasn't there?

JH: I think so.

G: Its still there.

END SIDE TWO.

Transcribed by:

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